

**From:** Bob Becksted  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Settlement

Thank you for hearing our concerns.

In particular I'm concerned about high quality, innovative alternatives to what Microsoft offers as Windows components. Microsoft has closely followed the aftermarket to Windows, and brazenly included features in Windows which effectively kill competition.

Microsoft includes, at no extra charge, non-operating system components such as Media Player, Internet Explorer Internet browser, a CD burner, email with Outlook Express, a personal firewall, and other more subtle utilities - all which were preceded by products from small independent vendors who may now be unable to compete. Allowing these products to be included as free features stifles creativity and competition. This results in less for everyone.

These features have been slowly added over several releases of Windows and, for the most part, have reduced competition. Where there was some effective competition, such as Netscape, the resulting Microsoft products have been of a higher quality. However, the longer effect has always been damaging. Netscape did not fare well and never turned a profit, finally selling to AOL.

I hope some more thought is given to the actions that should be taken to prevent the kind of oppression Microsoft has created.

Yours Truly,

Bob Becksted